



# Pottawatomie County Farm Service Agency

501 State Street, PO Box 368, Westmoreland, KS 66549-0368, 785-457-3661



## County Newsletter --- October 2010

County Committee Members: William Budenbender, Chairman; Clara M. Ebert, Vice Chair and John Wayne Gilsdorf, member  
County Office Staff: Annette Ramsey, CED; Diane K. O'Shea, PT; Debbie Lundgren, PT and Sara M. Wege, PT

### DCP/ACRE SIGNUP

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through June 1, 2011. USDA computes DCP Program payments using base acres and payment yields established for each farm. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. For 2011, eligible producers may request to receive advance direct payments based on 22 percent of the direct payment. USDA will issue advance direct payments beginning Dec. 1, 2010. Counter-cyclical payment rates vary depending on market prices. Counter-cyclical payments are issued only when the effective price for a commodity is below its target price. The effective price is the higher of the national average market price received during the 12-month marketing year for each covered commodity and the national average loan rate for a marketing assistance loan for the covered commodity.

Producers also have the option to enroll in the ACRE program. The optional ACRE Program provides a safety net based on state revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP. A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year national price for each eligible commodity. For 2011, the 2-year price average will be based on the 2009 and 2010 crop years.

**Producers should contact the USDA Service Center at 785-457-3661 to schedule an appointment to complete their 2011 DCP or ACRE contract.**

#### Nondiscrimination Statement

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

### SURE

The Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE) provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters. To be eligible for SURE payments, a producer is required to obtain crop insurance on all crops in all counties or, if crop insurance is not available, to participate in the Non-Insured Assistance Program (NAP) except for grazed acreage. Crop insurance or NAP coverage is not required for crops that are not of economic significance or those where the administrative fee required to buy NAP coverage exceeds 10% of the value of the coverage. Crops of significance means any crop that is expected to contribute 5 percent or more of the total expected value of all crops grown by a producer.

**To be eligible producers must report all crops, in all counties, in which they have an ownership share and risk. This includes crops on cropland and/or non cropland, including native or improved grass that will be mechanically harvested or grazed.**

**December 1, 2010** is the final date to purchase NAP insurance for all grasses, oats and alfalfa. **March 15, 2011** is the final date to purchase NAP insurance on coarse grains. **REMEMBER: ALL CROPS MECHANICALLY HARVESTED MUST BE INSURED TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR SURE.**



### COC ELECTION

County Committee Election is being held for LAA 3. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters on November 5, 2010. December 6, 2010 is the last day to return your voted ballot to the Pottawatomie County Service Center. Ballots will be counted on December 9, 2010 and the newly elected county committee member will take office on January 1, 2011.

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE**

## CROP REPORTING

FSA is now taking reports for wheat, barley, oats, rye and triticale. The deadline, to report these crops, is May 31, 2011. If you only have CRP you can report this now too.

Contact our office to schedule an appointment to report these crops.

## DIRECT DEPOSIT

If your FSA program payments are deposited directly into your checking account and you change banks or account numbers, please contact our office. New paperwork will need to be completed to change our records so your payments go to the right account.

## FARM LOANS

### **New!** Loan Program Available for Conservation Practices

We are pleased to announce the new Conservation Loan (CL) program that will provide farm owners and farm-related business operators access to credit to implement conservation techniques that will conserve natural resources. Loans are available currently at a 4.375% rate for either 7 or 20 years depending on the security pledged.

CL funds can be used to implement conservation practices approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), such as the installation of conservation structures; establishment of forest cover; installation of water conservation measures; establishment or improvement of permanent pastures; implementation of manure management; and the adaptation of other emerging or existing conservation practices, techniques or technologies.

The goal of FSA's Conservation Loan (CL) program is to provide farmers access to credit to implement these practices.

Unlike FSA's traditional farm ownership and operating loan programs that are targeted toward smaller and less financially established farmers, eligibility requirements are expanded to permit the agency to provide assistance to some applicants who may be large and financially strong. In fact, for those applicants with a strong financial position, paperwork requirements can be significantly reduced by eliminating the requirement to provide a cash flow and its supplementary documentation.

Direct CLs can be obtained through FSA offices with loan limits up to \$300,000. Guaranteed CLs up to \$1,112,000 are available from lenders working with FSA.

For more information on the Conservation Loan Program, contact our FSA Farm Loan Staff at 409 North Street, Seneca, (785) 336-2164, or contact our office.

## HOLIDAYS OFFICE CLOSURES

Veterans Day Holiday– November 11  
Thanksgiving Day Holiday– November 25  
Christmas Day Holiday – December 24  
New Years Day Holiday – December 31  
Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday – Jan 17, 2011

If you are receiving this newsletter in error, please contact 785-457-3661 or [annette.ramsey@ks.usda.gov](mailto:annette.ramsey@ks.usda.gov) with the exact name on the newsletter and county of your farming interest.